

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A complete list of all presently pending claims in the application is provided below, with suitable headings to show the status of each claim.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling a function of a medical imaging device, said system including:

a microphone for receiving a plurality of verbal commands from an operator;

a system control and speech recognition processor for receiving a first verbal command from said microphone for selecting a function and receiving a second verbal command from said microphone for assigning said function to one of a plurality of foot input devices, said foot input device controlling the assigned function when activated by a user; and

a display for displaying visual confirmation that said first verbal command was successfully recognized by said system control and speech recognition processor and for displaying visual confirmation that said second verbal command was successfully recognized by said system control and speech recognition processor.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said visual confirmation is performed by use of a drop-down menu, further including a medical imaging acquisition and display system for displaying medical images.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a verbal command as a predetermined verbal command.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said medical imaging device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling a function of a medical imaging device, said system including:

a microphone for receiving a plurality of verbal commands from an operator;

a system control and speech recognition processor for receiving a first verbal command for selecting a function and receiving a second verbal command for assigning said function to one of a plurality of foot input devices, said foot input device controlling the assigned function when activated by a user; and

a display for continuously displaying the current function assigned to each ~~said~~ foot input device.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said display displays medical images.

9. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined verbal command.

10. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.

12. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said medical imaging device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for assigning a function of a medical imaging device to an input device, said system including:

a system control and speech recognition processor for receiving a first verbal command from an operator for selecting a function and receiving a second verbal command from an operator for assigning said function to one of a plurality of foot input devices, said foot input device controlling the assigned function when activated by a user; and -

a display for displaying visual confirmation that said first verbal command was successfully recognized by said system control and speech recognition processor and for displaying visual confirmation that said second verbal command was successfully recognized by said system control and speech recognition processor.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 further including a microphone for receiving said verbal commands from said operator.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said visual confirmation is performed by use of a drop-down menu. further including a medical imaging acquisition and display system for displaying medical images.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined verbal command.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.

19. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said medical imaging device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a function of a medical imaging device, said method including the steps of:

receiving a first verbal command from an operator;

selecting a function in response to said first verbal command;

displaying visual confirmation that said first verbal command was successfully recognized;

receiving a second verbal command from an operator;

assigning said function to one of a plurality of foot input devices in response to said second verbal command;

displaying visual confirmation that said second verbal command was successfully recognized; and

controlling said function assigned to said foot input device when said input device is activated by an operator.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein said verbal commands are received by a microphone.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for assigning a function of a medical imaging device to an input device, said method including the steps of:

receiving a first verbal command for selecting a function;

receiving a second verbal command for assigning said function to one of a plurality of foot input devices;

assigning said function to said foot input device in response to said second verbal command;

displaying the current function assigned to each foot input device; and

controlling said function assigned to said foot input device in response to said verbal commands when said input device is activated by an operator.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said verbal commands are received by a microphone.